

A PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEW

OF THE

House, No. 322 Spruce St., South side, above 3d,

(OLD NUMBER 118,)

Being the First House West of the Scots' Presbyterian Church.

THIS house was built in the year 1786, by the Rev. William Marshall, and was the place of his residence until his decease in November, 1802. Mr. Marshall was born about A. D. 1740, in Fifeshire, Scotland. He received a good education with a view to his becoming a minister in the Associate Presbyterian (or Secession) Church, and after the regular course of study in the Divinity Hall of that denomination, he was licensed to preach in the year 1762. He was immediately appointed a missionary to Pennsylvania, where there were then a number of members of the Secession Church, who had been constituted into a body called the "Associate Presbytery of Pennsylvania." To them he presented his credentials, was received, and preached in various places as he was appointed by them. A congregation of Seceders was formed about that time in Philadelphia, but they had no church building. Mr. Marshall's first sermon to them was in February, 1764, at a Free-mason's Hall, in Videll's alley. They had for some time the use of a vendue store; and subsequently a frame house in Shippen street was occupied as their place of worship. In 1768, they gave Mr. Marshall a call to be their pastor. He accepted the call, with this limitation, that his installation be delayed "until the Lord would grant him further light about it." He entered upon his duties, however, at once, and in April, 1771, the pastoral relation between him and the congregation was fixed. The congregation was small and the members not wealthy. The salary which they could afford to the minister was only £80, Pennsylvania currency, equal to \$213.33, per annum.

In 1770, they purchased the lot of ground on Spruce street,

and as they had not then sufficient means to purchasing a church, they proposed soliciting aid from the citizens generally. Before they could do this, however, it was necessary to procure permission of the Governor of the State. The "Brief" for this purpose was obtained by Mr. Marshall, chiefly through the interest of his friend Dr. Rush. The document is still in existence, dated March 25th, 1771. It is signed by the then Governor, John Penn, a grandson of William Penn, and is countersigned, "By his Honour's Command," by his Secretary, Joseph Shippen. After stating the objects of the petitioners, the document proceeds thus:

"Now know ye, that being willing to favour the request and undertaking of the said petitioners, I do hereby grant my permission to the Rev. William Marshall, and the elders and deacons of the congregation aforesaid, to address and apply themselves in a decent and becoming manner unto any person or persons, whom they shall think proper to ask, within the said city, district, and township, for their benevolent and charitable contributions, for the better enabling the said congregation to erect, carry on, and finish the said intended building, and the same to take, receive, and employ for that use and purpose, and none other whatsoever. Provided, that this Brief shall not continue in force any longer than the space of twelve months from the date hereof, and that the sum which they, the said ministers, elders, and deacons, shall apply for, shall not exceed one thousand pounds in the whole."

Mr. Marshall was earnest in procuring the subscriptions, and was in a degree successful. It was said that only about \$800 was advanced by the members of the congregation, about \$2700 was obtained in Philadelphia, and about \$600 in Baltimore and New York. The church was erected during 1771. It was called the Scots' Presbyterian Church, and was secured by its Deed of Trust to the use of persons holding the principles of the Associate Presbyterian Church. It still bears that name. The congregation, however, some years ago connected themselves with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Marshall laboriously and faithfully performed the duties of pastor, and was constant at his post. But when the British took possession of Philadelphia, Mr. Marshall, having been always a decided

Whig, was obliged to leave the city, as did many of his congregation, who also were Whigs. The British kept possession until June, 1778. During their occupancy of the city, the church was used as a hospital for the Hessians, the pews were torn down and destroyed, and much other damage was done to the building. Mr. Marshall also suffered, as the house in which he then resided, corner of Third and Spruce streets, was occupied by some persons connected with the British army, and much of his furniture was destroyed or carried away. In the Pennsylvania Packet of September, 1778, there is an advertisement, by Mr. Marshall, enumerating various articles of furniture, "taken as rebel property out of the subscriber's house, by an under-strapper in the British army."

About the year 1783, some difficulties arose in the church, partly from a disposition evinced by a portion of the congregation, including the five elders, to favour a union which was then contemplated, with other branches of the Presbyterian denomination. Mr. Marshall, and about one half of the members, were not disposed to favour a union at that time. Thus the congregation was divided into two parties. On a Sabbath morning in June, 1786, the five elders and their friends took possession of the church, and prohibited Mr. Marshall from occupying the pulpit. He, and the friends who adhered to him then withdrew to his own house, next door to the church, which was at that time unfinished, and there held the services for the day. It is probable that they used this house as their place of worship for some weeks. They however procured, from the trustees of the University, permission to occupy the Hall of their building, on Fourth street near Arch street, and in this hall the congregation continued to worship until 1791. A suit to recover possession of the church was instituted by Mr. Marshall and his adherents, and in July, 1790, the trial came on. The two judges on the bench gave opposite charges to the jury, Judge M'Kean's being favourable to the elders' party, while

Judge Rush's was favourable to Mr. Marshall and his adherents. The verdict was against Mr. Marshall, and although another trial might have been had, Mr. Marshall and his friends thought best to discontinue the contest. They then resolved to endeavour to erect a church, and a lot of ground on the north side of Walnut street above Fourth was secured for the purpose.

Mr. Marshall was well known and much respected by the citizens of Philadelphia. Many of these sympathized with him and his adherents in the loss of their church, and some of them voluntarily tendered pecuniary aid towards erecting another. Even some of the jury who had reluctantly consented to a verdict in accordance with Judge Mc'Kean's charge, subscribed, without solicitation, towards the building of a new church.

The building was forthwith commenced, and it was opened for public worship July 31st, 1791, Mr. Marshall preaching the first sermon from Haggai, 2d chapter, 7th, 8th, and 9th verses.

Mrs. Marshall was the widow of a Captain Marshall, and for some time before her marriage to Rev. Mr. Marshall, had been keeping a genteel boarding-house. As the stipend received by Rev. Mr. M. from his congregation was not sufficient for his maintenance, they continued to take boarders. Congress generally sat in Philadelphia, and some of the members were in the habit of boarding at Mr. Marshall's. Some of the members of the Convention for framing the Constitution of the United States in 1787, also boarded there. About the year 1792, Mrs. Marshall was struck with paralysis, which rendered her incapable of household duties. About that time the Count de Noailles arrived in this country, driven from France by the storms of the Revolution. Mr. Marshall rented to him the front house or the greater part of it, reserving the right of passage through the entry, and moved his own family into the small building in the rear. The Count was of an ancient noble family. His

sister was the wife of Lafayette. He had been in America during the war of Independence as an officer in Rochambeau's army. The Count occupied the house for several years. He visited in the principal families of Philadelphia, and was often called upon by our most respectable citizens. After Bonaparte became First Consul, De Noailles accepted office in the French army, and died or was killed in the West Indies.

In October, 1796, the Duke of Orleans, afterwards King Louis Philippe, who had found means to escape from France, arrived at Philadelphia from Hamburg, in the ship *America*, Captain Ewing. He had remained on board incognito, until the ship was approaching the Delaware, when he made himself known to the captain. The vessel belonged to Messrs. Conyngham, Nesbit & Co., eminent and much respected merchants here. Mr. C., whose residence was in Front street below Walnut street, invited the Duke to his house, where he was most hospitably entertained. He was then anxiously expecting his younger brothers, Duke de Monpensier and Count Beaujolais, and he took lodgings at Mr. Marshall's, where he remained to await their arrival. The vessel in which they had sailed from Marseilles had a very long passage, so that they did not reach Philadelphia until February, 1797. The three brothers then rented the house which is still standing at the N. W. corner of Prune and Fourth streets. Their names appear in the Directory of 1798, as "D'Orleans Mess. Merchants, near 100 South Fourth street." After some time they made a visit to Mount Vernon. They were kindly received, and passed some days there. Soon afterwards they set out on a tour of the United States, for which General Washington prepared, for their use, an Itinerary. They travelled on horseback, each of them carrying in a saddle bag what was required in clothes and other articles. They afterwards made an excursion to the Eastern States. They finally left America in the early part of 1798. Monpensier died in England, in 1807, aged 32 years, and

was buried in Westminster Abbey. The youngest brother, Beaujolais, an amiable youth who was universally beloved, died at Malta in 1808. The Duke of Orleans, after many vicissitudes, became King of France in 1830, Charles X. having been compelled to relinquish the throne. He assumed the name of Louis Philippe. Himself was compelled to leave his throne and kingdom, in January, 1848, and take refuge in England, where he died in August, 1850, aged 77 years.

When Mr. Cass was U. S. Minister at Paris, Louis Philippe related to him the principal events of his life, and particularly the incidents of his sojourn and travels in America. These are given in an article prepared by Mr. Cass, and published in the Democratic Review of May, 1840. In this he says, "The first quarters which the king occupied after reaching Philadelphia, were the lower part of a house belonging to the Rev. Mr. Marshall and adjoining a church," &c. Mr. James Arrott of this city was then a youth, who had just before come here from Scotland. He was a frequent visitor at Mr. Marshall's house, and distinctly remembers the Duke of Orleans being there. In a letter addressed to his parents in Scotland, dated December 7th, 1796, he says, "Mr. Marshall has at this moment, lodging in his house and eating at his table, Philip Egalité, now Duke of Orleans, and the Count de Noailles, formerly two of the richest and most powerful noblemen in Europe. What a striking example of the instability of all human events!"

I can distinctly remember the Count de Noailles, having often seen him walking about the city, and having met him at Mr. Marshall's house when I had occasion to call there. It is quite probable that I had sometimes seen the Duke of Orleans there also, but I have not now any recollection of it.

This picture of Mr. Marshall's house embraces also a view of the west side of the Scots Presbyterian Church before alluded to, and which was built in 1771, by Mr. Marshall's congregation. This church originally stood back

about twelve feet from the line of the street. It was a plain but neat building, and was a good specimen of an old time Philadelphia Brick Church, presenting an appearance somewhat similar to St. Peter's Church at this time. Some years ago, however, when an addition was made to the front, bringing it up to the line of the street, the whole of its venerable exterior was defaced by a coating of mortar.

Mr. Marshall continued, during the remainder of his life, to officiate in the new church on Walnut street, to a congregation who were warmly attached to him. He was afflicted for some time with a cancerous affection, under which he suffered much. From this, however, he entirely recovered, and enjoyed pretty good health until taken with the sickness of which he died. His family consisted of himself, Mrs. Marshall and a son—and also a sister, Miss Marshall, an excellent and pious lady who had come out from Scotland a few years before, and who relieved Mrs. Marshall, then helpless from palsy, of all the cares of the household. Mr. Marshall's relaxation was in cultivating flowers in the yard which lay between the rear of his house and Cypress alley. Of this small piece of ground he made a beautiful flower garden. His study and library was a one story building at the south end of his parlour and communicating with it. There were windows in the south side of it through which he could, while at his studies, look out upon this garden. Mrs. Marshall survived him about a year. His son died a few years ago, leaving a family. Miss Marshall returned to Scotland soon after the decease of Mr. Marshall.

Mr. McCulloch, who wrote a sketch of Mr. Marshall's life, observes: "Mr. Marshall was of the largest size, and inclined to be corpulent. He had a strong voice. His visage was long and pale. He was near-sighted. He was cheerful in conversation, an excellent companion, had a fund of humour, and was of a very friendly disposition."

My own recollection of Mr. Marshall's personal appearance and of his cheerful disposition, corresponds with what Mr. McCulloch has stated.

His last sickness was a disease of the liver. His chamber was the south room in the second story of the rear building. One Sabbath morning he insisted on preaching—several of his congregation were notified and attended. He sat in a chair, and, though very weak, he went through the work. His text on that occasion was Psalm cxix. v. 75: "I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me."

Mr. Marshall died November 17th, 1802, and was interred in front of the church. The funeral procession was very large—the Governor and Chief Justice of the State walking at the head of it. A monument was erected with this inscription: "In memory of the Rev. William Marshall, a native of Scotland, and first Pastor of this Church, who died Nov. 17th, 1802, in the 62d year of his age, and in the 38th of his ministry. 'Be thou faithful to the death, and I will give thee a crown of life.'" Rev. II. 10.

The following notice appeared in the United States Gazette, of Nov. 19th:

"Died, after a tedious illness, on the 17th inst, in the 63d year of his age, the Rev. William Marshall, minister of the Scots' Presbyterian Church, in this city, over which he acted as a faithful and exemplary Pastor upwards of two and thirty years. He exercised, at the same time, an apostolic care over all the religious societies of his denomination in the United States. Two neat churches were erected by his influence in this city. He was both learned and wise; and instructed, not only by his preaching and conversation, but by the uniform piety and integrity of his life. His remains were yesterday interred in his own church yard on Walnut street, attended by a large number of citizens. His memory will be entombed in the hearts of his affectionate and afflicted congregation."

The foregoing remarks in relation to Mr. Marshall, and to the two churches of which he had been the Pastor in this city, have been drawn up by one who received baptism at the hands of Mr. Marshall, was brought up under his ministry, and has ever retained an affectionate remembrance of him. M.

Philadelphia, May, 1859.

NOTE.—After the sale of the church property on Walnut street, in 1854, the remains of Mr. Marshall were taken up, and were re-interred in front of the new church at the south-west corner of Broad and Lombard streets. The monument was also removed, and again placed over the remains.